



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

August 11, 2003

TO: Public School Academies and Public School Academy Authorizers

FROM: C. Gregory Olszta
Public School Academy Liaison

SUBJECT: 2003-2004 Federal Charter School Dissemination Grant Program—Ninth Cycle
Informational Meeting on September 5, 2003

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) anticipates that it will make available up to \$200,000 in Federal Charter School Grant funds for activities consistent with the grant program criteria. Such activities may include:

Assisting other schools in enhancing their school's program (or certain aspects of the school's program), or to disseminate exemplary practices and information about the charter school, through such activities as:

- *Assisting other individuals with the planning and start-up of one or more new public schools, including charter schools, that are independent of the assisting charter school and the assisting charter school's developers, and that agree to be held to at least as high a level of accountability as the assisting charter school;*
- *Developing partnerships with other public schools, including charter schools, designed to improve student performance in each of the schools participating in the partnership;*
- *Developing curriculum materials, assessments, and other materials that promote increased student achievement and are based on successful practices within the assisting charter school; and conducting evaluations and developing materials that document the successful practices of the assisting charter school and that are designed to improve student performance in other schools.*

The purpose of this part of the program is to provide funding on a competitive basis for the new public school academies that have been in operation for at least three (3) consecutive years, have not previously been awarded a Federal Charter School Dissemination Grant, and have demonstrated overall success including:

- substantial progress in improving student achievement;
- high levels of parent satisfaction; and
- the management and leadership necessary to overcome initial start-up problems and establish a thriving, financially viable charter school.

Applications for the 2003-2004 Charter School Dissemination Grant Program will be posted on the Department of Education website during the week of **August 11, 2003**.

In order to assist applicants, the MDE has scheduled a brief informational meeting for potential grantees to occur Friday, September 5, 2003 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the John A Hannah Building in Conference Room 2 on Upper Parking level, 608 West Allegan Lansing, Michigan. Persons wishing to attend should contact Ms. Kim Sidel of the Office of Field Services at 517/373 3345 or via e-mail at: sidelk@michigan.gov. A [map link](#) for your use is attached, as is a list of eligible public school academies.

Attachment

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